

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 230761

64

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 230761

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: BPRO, CZ

SUBJ: GM INTEREST IN CZECHOSLOVAK AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY

1. DURING GM MEETING WITH JAROLIM IN NEW YORK CITY LAST SEPTEMBER 28, JAROLIM INDICATED INTEREST IN PURSUING GM PROPOSALS REGARDING POSSIBLE PRODUCTION OF A LXURY PASSENGER CAR (OPEL DIPLOMAT), AND TRUCK MODELS. GM HAS SUBSEQUENTLY REAFFIRMED THEIR INTEREST, BUT NOT REPLY HAS BEEN RECEIVED FROM JAROLIM.

2. WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY ASSISTANCE IN DISCREETLY INQUIRING INTO CURRENT CZECH THINKING REGARDING GM PARTICIPATION IN THEIR AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY, AS WELL AS TYPES OF COOPERATION AGREEMENTS CZECHS MAY BE CONSIDERING. SHOULD REASON FOR EMBASSY INQUIRY BE RAISED BY CZECH OFFICIALS, REPLY SHOULD BE ALONG LINE THAT G.M. CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 STATE 230761

PUZZLED REGARDING LACK OF RESPONSE AND REMAINS EAGER TO PURSUE

PROPOSALS. BEGIN FYI - AT END OF SESSION IN NEW YORK CITY
JAROLIM REMARKED THAT WHILE BOTH HE AND CIHAK WERE
EAGER TO MOVE AHEAD IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH GM, THE POLITICAL
SITUATION IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA WAS SUCH THAT NEITHER COULD MOVE
AS FAST AS HE WOULD LIKE. END FYI. KISSINGER

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